



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/045,515

10/26/2001

Tsutomu Tanaka

A5015/T40100

2999

32588

7590

03/01/2004

APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
2881 SCOTT BLVD. M/S 2061
SANTA CLARA, CA 95050

EXAMINER

JONES, STEPHEN E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2817

DATE MAILED: 03/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---------------------

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
----------	-------

20040223

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

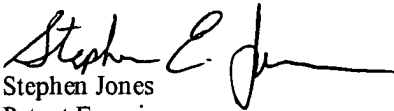
Commissioner for Patents

The reply filed on 1/7/04 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because: Applicant's arguments regarding the elected invention are not persuasive. As noted in the transmittal dated 11/6/03 the remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention. It is the Figs. 5 and 7A-B that are the elected species which simply do not show a "bent" portion. Furthermore, the first examination and search of the claims did not consider the limitation of the lines being "bent" since the limitation was not included in the claims which were examined (i.e. the new limitation of the lines being "bent" is of a non-elected embodiment which was not examined in the first office action and thus election by original presentation is in effect for the present claims).

Furthermore, claims 5-8 and 12-13 were cancelled by applicant in the communication dated 2/12/03. These claim numbers cannot be re-used and should not be included in future claim amendments/submittals (i.e. the cancelled claims should be described as cancelled, e.g.: 5. (Cancelled)).

Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.


Stephen Jones
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2817